

CHARLOTTE TURNER.

[To accompany bill H. R. 399.]

DECEMBER 26, 1856.

Mr. MAXWELL, from the Committee on Public Lands, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Charlotte Turner, of Louisiana, praying relief, &c., submit the following report:*

That the petitioner, in the year 18—, took possession of the east half of southeast quarter of section twenty-one, and the west half of southwest quarter of section twenty-two, township three, and began the cultivation of the same, as by law she could rightfully do, intending to pre-empt it. It appears that in taking the necessary steps to secure her right she was misled as to the proper designation of said tract by reason of erroneous surveys. That upon subsequent survey by the government to correct said errors, it was found that the tract of which she had possession was not the tract, as designated by numbers, which under the previous survey she had named as the one she sought to pre-empt. At the land office she was not permitted to perfect her pre-emption because of the mistake specified. It is shown that she has all along continued to cultivate the tract in good faith, and your committee do not see that she should be made to suffer the loss of her right to pre-empt, as the fault or mistake was not her own, but that of the government.

Your committee, therefore, report the accompanying bill for her relief and recommend its passage.

